

Nature Quiz

TMN-COT Meeting March, 2014
by Barbara Burkhardt

Hummers

Question: Species Quiz # 1

What are the two most common hummingbird species found in Texas?

Extra points for SPECIES names.

Question: Species Quiz # 2

List the continents on which hummingbirds are found.

Question: Species Quiz # 3

True or False

Hummingbirds drink through their beaks like a straw.

Question: Species Quiz # 4

How does a hummer's nest stretch?

Question: Species Quiz # 5

What is torpor?

Question: Species Quiz # 6

What species of hummingbird travels the greatest distance during migration?

Question: Species Quiz #7

- Identify these 4 species of hummingbirds.

1



2



3



4



Question: Species Quiz # 8

True or False?

Hummingbirds are the second largest family of birds in the Western Hemisphere.

Question: Species Quiz # 9

True or False?

**Hummingbirds feed only
on nectar.**

Question: Species Quiz # 10



Photo by Kathy Adams Clark

**Who is this
famous lady?**

Answers: Species Quiz # 1

What are the 2 most common hummingbird species in Texas?

- 1. Ruby Throat (*Archilochus colubris*)
- 2. Black-chinned (*Archilochus alexandri*)
- **Family Name: Trochilidae (Order Apodiformes)**



Male



Answers: Species Quiz # 1, continued

RT



BC

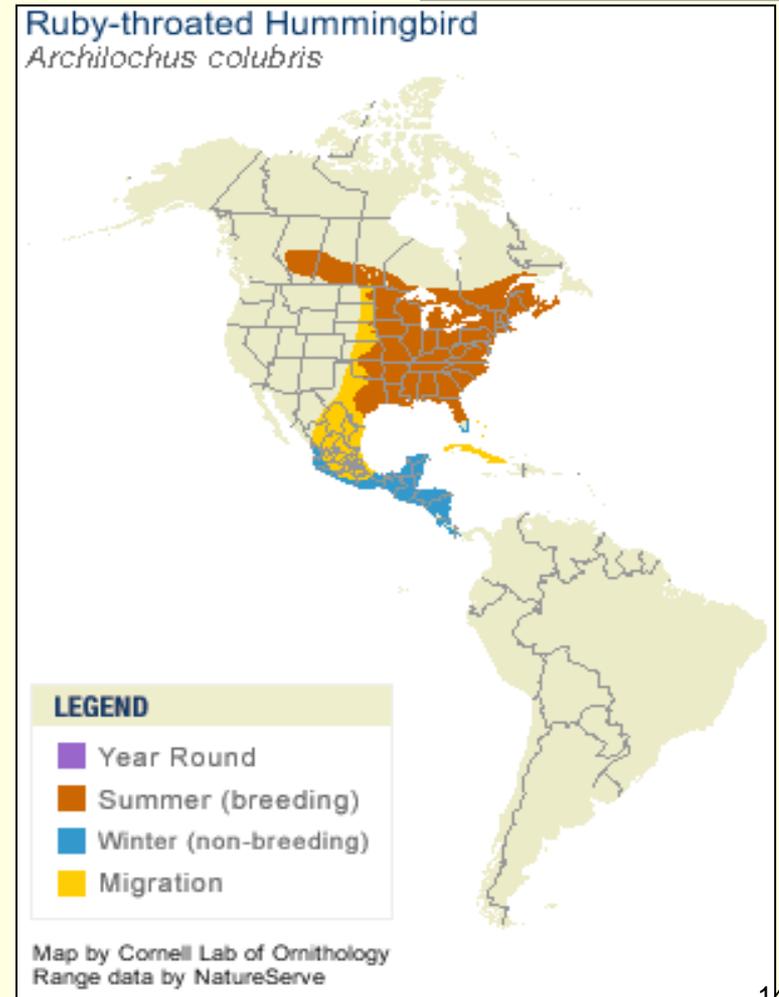


It is almost impossible to tell the females apart.

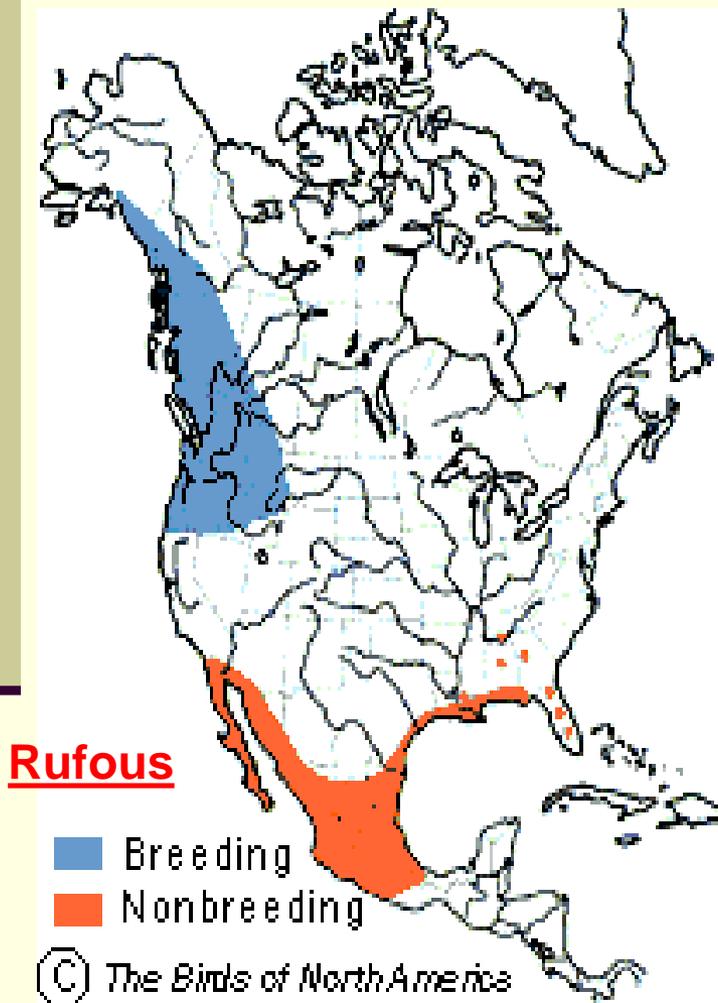
Answers: Species Quiz # 2

List the continents on which hummingbirds are found.

- **Western Hemisphere**
 - North America
 - South America
- ***As far north as Alaska and as far south as Chile and Patagonia.***



Answer: Species Quiz # 2, continued



There are 9 species which occur in Chile and Patagonia.

Sparkling Violet-ear *Colibri coruscans*

Andean Hillstar *Oreotrochilus estella*

White-sided Hillstar *Oreotrochilus leucopleurus*

Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas*

Green-backed Firecrown *Sephanoides sephaniodes*

Juan Fernandez

Firecrown *Sephanoides fernandensis* (E)

Oasis Hummingbird *Rhodopsis vesper*

Peruvian Sheartail *Thaumastura cora*

Chilean Woodstar *Eulidia yarrellii*

Answer: Species Quiz # 3

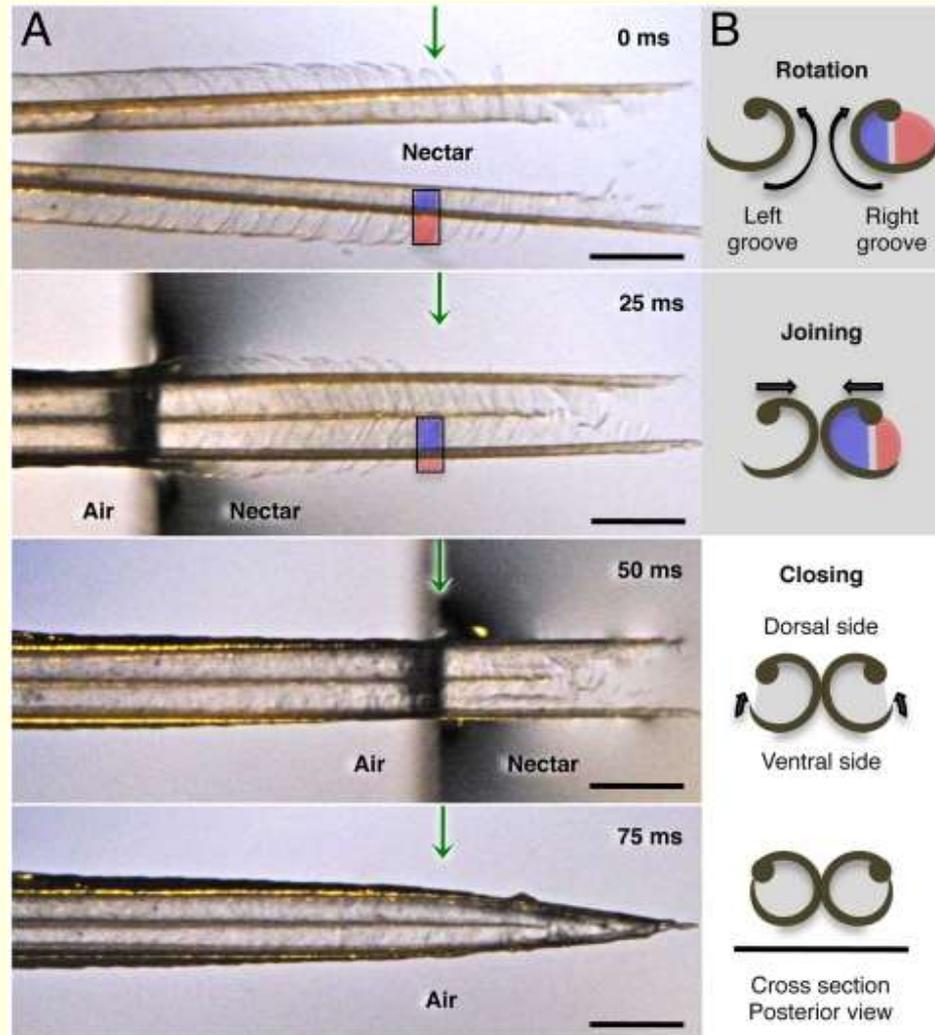
Hummingbirds drink through
their beaks like a straw.

■ Answer: False



Answer: Species Quiz # 3, continued

Hummingbirds will lap up nectar with their tongues.



Answer: Species Quiz # 4

How does a hummer's nest stretch?



Plant down from thistles,
dandelions or cattails

Cotton fibers

Moss and lichen

Small bits of bark or leaves

Feathers

Fuzz or hairs from leaves

Spider silk

Answer: Species Quiz # 5

What is torpor?

- Hummingbirds enter torpor to conserve energy.
- ❖ When a hummingbird goes into torpor, their metabolic rate is one-fifteenth (1/15) of normal sleep.
- Torpor can save up to 60% of a hummingbird's available energy.
- ❖ When in torpor, a hummingbird's heart rate can drop to as few as 50 beats per minute.
- During torpor, a hummingbird can lower the body temperature to as low as 55 degrees Fahrenheit.
- ❖ When hummingbirds go into torpor, they will appear as if they are dead.
- It can take up to an hour for a hummingbird to fully recover from torpor.
- ❖ Torpor can be fatal to a weak hummingbird.

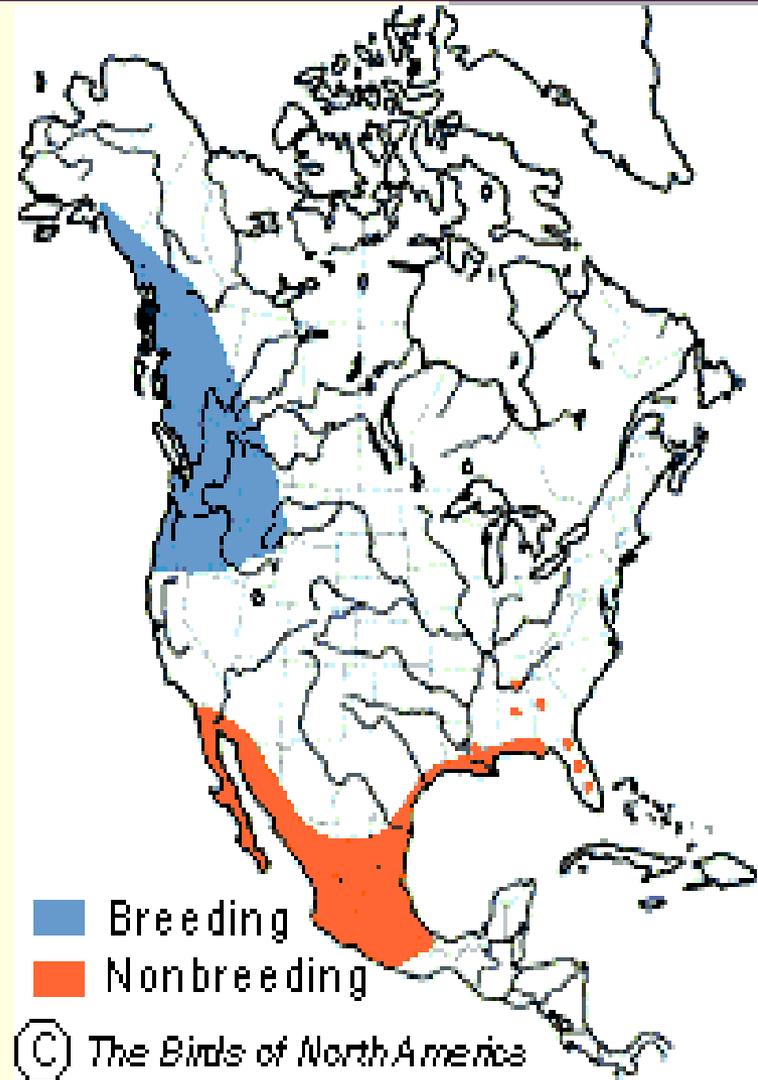
Answer: Species Quiz # 6

What species of hummingbird travels the greatest distance during migration?

I've already shown
you the answer:

Rufous Hummingbird

■ (*Selasphorus rufus*)



Answers: Species Quiz #7

- Identify these 4 species of hummingbirds.



Top Left (1):
Broad Tailed



Top Right (2):
Magnificent



Bottom Left (3):
Buff-bellied



Bottom Right(4):
Blue-throated

Answer: Species Quiz # 8

TRUE - Hummingbirds are the second largest family of birds in the western hemisphere.

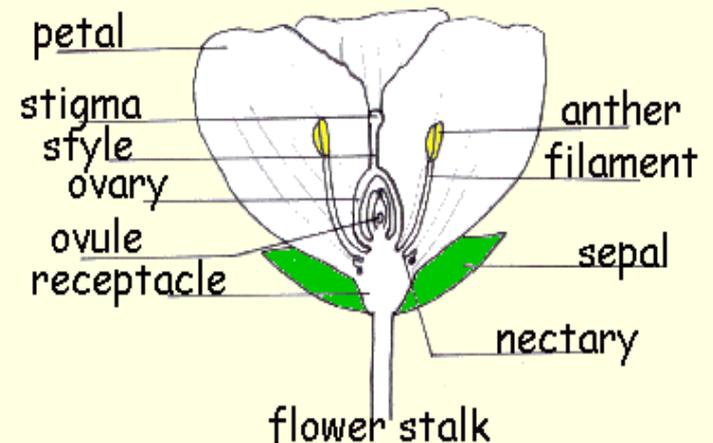
- There are more than 320 species of hummingbirds.
- Most of the species of hummingbirds are found in South America.
- The country of Ecuador has the largest number of species of hummingbirds.
- There are more than fifty (50) species of hummingbirds that breed in Mexico.
- There are more than fifteen (15) species of hummingbirds that breed in the United States.
- There are more than three (3) species of hummingbirds that breed in Canada.
- Texas has the most species of any state: 19 of the 24 verified native U.S. species.

Answer: Species Quiz # 9

FALSE: Hummingbirds feed primarily on nectar but also eat insects, insect larva and eggs, and spiders

NECTAR

- ❖ Contains sugars, amino acids and other compounds.
- ❖ Varies with flower variety
- ❖ Higher in natives
- ❖ Not produced constantly



TRAP-LINING

GLEANNING

HAWKING

Answer: Species Quiz # 10

- Who is this famous lady?



Photo by Kathy Adams Clark
Above her feeder, Sept. 2009

“BIG MAMMA”

- Female Rufous Hummingbird – November 2003
- Banded by Charlie Brower - January, 2004
- Known age - Hatched in 2002
- Returned to same yard 8 (2010) winters in a row
- In March, 2011 - Age 9 Years, 9 Months
- Same bird proven by band number 32960
- Unknown where she goes during breeding season
- Holds the Texas record as longest lived female Rufous.

Last Banding, February 2010

